


The Father Gives Good Gifts to His Children

Luke 11:5 - 13


Presented by Bob DeWaay
May 18, 2008



The parable of the Friend at Midnight

■ **Luke 11:5-7**

Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him' and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'"



"which one of you?" = a question that expected an immediate and self evident answer

■ **Luke 14:5 & Luke 15:4**

"Which one of you shall have a son or an ox fall into a well, and will not immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?"

"What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?"

(Exact Greek construction in each case as 11:5)

“which one of you?” = a question that expected an immediate and self evident answer

■ **Luke 17:7**

But which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, “Come immediately and sit down to eat?”

(Exact Greek construction in each case as 11:5; 14:5; 15:4)

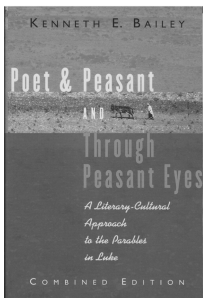
Hospitality was always offered

■ **Luke 11:5-7**

Then He said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’ and from inside he answers and says, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’”

Middle east customs

“The crucial element in this initial portion of the parable is that the guest is the guest of the community, not just the individual. . . . ‘You have honored *our village*’” (traditional complimentary language) p122 *Poet*

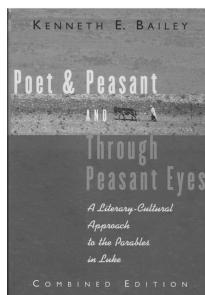




Middle east customs

"In going to his neighbor, the host is asking the sleeper to fulfill his duty to the guest of the village. As long as the request is modest enough, refusal is unthinkable."

P122, 123 *Poet*





Can any of you imagine this?: "NO"

■ **Luke 11:5-7**

Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him' and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'"



But "persistence" is not a good translation and does not make sense of the parable

■ **Luke 11:8**

"I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs."



Greek *anaideia* is “shamelessness”
not “persistence”

■ **Luke 11:8** Darby

I say to you, Although he will not get up and give *them* to him because he is his friend, because of his shamelessness, at any rate, he will rise and give him as many as he wants.



Greek *anaideia* is the word for
“shame” negated

- *aidōs* “sense of shame” + alpha privative = without a sense of shame (negative quality)

Solution that interprets Luke 11:8

- *aidōs* “sense of shame” + alpha privative = “avoidance of shame” (positive quality)



Lesser to Greater argument

- The friend who does not want to help will do so anyhow to avoid dishonor or shame.
- How much more will God who loves us and wants to help do so and thus bring honor to His name. (“hallowed be thy name”)



Greek *anaideia* as avoidance of shame in Luke 11:8

■ Luke 11:8

"I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his desire to avoid shame for him and the entire village, he will get up and give him as much as he needs."

(Bob's personal amplified version)



The Father answers seekers but only sons and daughters actually seek God

■ Luke 11:9, 10

"And I say to you, ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened."



Another lesser to greater argument

■ Luke 11:11, 12

Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he?



Human fathers give good gifts, the Heavenly Father gives the greatest gift

■ **Luke 11:13**

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"



The "good gift" of the Father is the Holy Spirit

■ **Luke 24:49**

"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."



Applications and Implications

- 1) God will answer the prayers of His people to the end that they may honor God
- 2) We should seek things that are above where Christ is seated
- 3) We need the gift of the Holy Spirit or we cannot enter the Kingdom



1) God will answer the prayers of His people to the end that they may honor God

■ **Psalm 50:15**

“And call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”



2) We should seek things that are above where Christ is seated

■ **Colossians 3:1**


Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.



2) We should seek things that are above where Christ is seated

■ **James 4:3**


You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.



2) We should seek things that are above where Christ is seated

■ **Luke 12:31**


But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.



2) We should seek things that are above where Christ is seated

■ **Romans 14:17**

for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.



3) We need the gift of the Holy Spirit or we cannot enter the Kingdom

■ **John 3:5**

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."
